

# ՀԱՅ ԴՐԱՄԱԳԻՏԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՆԴԻՍ

## ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

**NEWSLETTER**

No. 18

February 1, 2018

### LATEST

GABOUJIAN, Arshavir. Money-baoxes - *Գանձանակներ*. *Asbarez*, New Year Special Issue, Vol. 109 (Saturday, 30 December 2017), No. 15,644, 2<sup>nd</sup> Section, pp. 28-29, illus. (in Armenian).

KETSEMANIAN, Varak and ARDHALDJIAN, Raffy. Beyond Nationalism: The Case for Engaged Patriotism on the Eve of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Statehood. *Asbarez*, Vol. 109 (Thursday, 21 September 2017), No. 15,579, pp. 3-4 of English Section, Levon Shant FDC illus.

ARMENPRESS. Vatican has Published a Postage Stamp Dedicated to the Visit of Pope Francis to Dzidzernakabert - *Վատիկան հրատարակած է Ֆրանսիս Պապի Ծիծեռնակաբերդ այցելության նուիրուած դրոշմաթուղթ մը*. *Asbarez*, Vol. 109 (Tuesday, 28 November 2017), No. 15,621, p. 1, illus.

### LETTERS

Enclosed is my check for 2018 membership dues. Also, your letter, the cleaned coin of Tigranes II the Great (95-56 B.C.), are you selling at the half price of \$150 which is \$75? Also, is it authentic? Thanks.

Steve Dulgarian

**Editor's Response:** Thank you for your letter and also for the 2018 membership dues. That coin which was described was not mine and the owner took his coin and went away. I cannot sell something which I do not have.

### Some Thoughts by Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian

While working on *Coinage of Cilician Armenia*, Bedoukian spent some time in Europe to make aluminum foil impressions of Armenian coins. A small paragraph closed his article: "Wonderful to be back in New York, accompanied by impressions of 5000 Armenian coins. As the saying goes, you don't have to be crazy to be a numismatist, but it helps." ("A Numismatic Pilgrimage," SNS II, pp. 312-320)

### DONATIONS

Baenen, Paul A. ....	\$75.00	Manasaryan, Aram .....	\$10.00
Bedrosian, A. P. ....	\$75.00	Setian, Charles .....	\$75.00

ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL NEWSLETTER is the publication of Armenian Numismatic Society, an educational, non-profit organization. Editor, Y. T. Nercessian, 8511 Beverly Park Place, Pico Rivera, CA 90660-1920, USA Membership: \$25, foreign 30 per year.

## NFA AUCTION X ARMENIAN COINS

In 1981, Numismatic Fine Arts, Inc., Beverly Hills, California, published *Auction X*, to be closed on September 17 and 18. The catalogue listed three Armenian coins. Two copper coins (Nos. 226 and 227) were attributed to Arsames (Circa 230 B.C.) and a silver drachm (No. 228) to Tigranes II the Great (95-55 B.C.).

**Lot 226.** Obv.: Draped bust of Arsames right, wearing diademed conical cap, border of dots. Rev.: Eagle standing right holding thunderbolt. Legend to right downward ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩ[Σ]; to left downward ΑΡΣΑΜ[ΟΥ]. Data: 16 mm, 3.86g. Grade of preservation About Very Fine. Estimated price \$800.00. Realized price \$875.00.

**Lot 227.** Obv.: As above, from the same obverse die as the preceding lot. Rev.: Caps of Dioscuri. Legend to right downward ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ; to left downward ΑΡΣΑΜΟΥ. Crosses on caps. Data: 16 mm, 3.25g. Grade of preservation Fine. Estimated price \$600.00. Realized price \$750.00

**Lot 228.** Obv.: Bust of Tigranes II draped right, wearing ornate five-pointed Armenian tiara, ornamented with eight-rayed star flanked with two eagles back to back and heads turned to each other. Rev.: Tyche of Artaxata, draped and wearing a turreted crown, seated right on a rock, holding a palm-branch in her right hand, at her feet the upper portion of male nude figure of the river god swimming right. Legend to right downward, ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ, to l. downward ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΝ / ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ. In field between palm-branch and head of Tyche, **ΣΑ**; to right of palm-branch, **Δ**; below swimming figure, in exergue, **ΕΚ**. Data: Silver drachm, Attic standard, 3.56g-18mm-12h. Grade of preservation Very Fine / Extremely Fine. Estimated price \$2000.00. Realized price \$1500.00

When the NFA *Auction X* catalogue was published, I wrote to Paul Z. Bedoukian about the auction and that I was planning to bid on all three Armenian coins. Bedoukian replied and said he is working on a paper regarding the coinage of Sophene<sup>1</sup> and asked me not to bid on lots 226 and 227 so that he can do his research. I had already submitted my mail bids on lots 226-228. However, I refrained from increasing my bids on the coins of Arsames. Bedoukian was successful in purchasing both coins of Arsames and used them in his paper (SNS II, p. 65, Nos. 7 and 8; ANS III,<sup>2</sup> pp. 8 and 10, Nos. 13.m and 21.h, respectively). But I was successful in purchasing the silver drachm of Tigranes (YTN *Collection*, No. 53).<sup>3</sup> Note that in 1981, on prices realized of coin auctions there was no buyer's fee.

Y. T. Nercessian

<sup>1</sup> Vahagn Abcarians, "Interview with Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Ser. I, Vol. IX (March 1983), No. 1, pp. 9-11 (in Armenian); Paul Z. Bedoukian, "Coinage of the Armenian Kingdoms of Sophene and Commagene," American Numismatic Society, *Museum Notes*, Vol. 28 (1983), pp. 71-88, pls. 11-12, and later reprinted as Armenian Numismatic Society, *Special Publication*, No. 4 (1985), 37 pages and 2 plates (bilingual in English and Armenian); also, in *Selected Numismatic Studies II*, Armenian Numismatic Society, *Special Publication*, No. 10 (2003), pp. 39-69, pls. 1-2.

<sup>2</sup> For illustration of both Sophene coins, in addition to NFA *Auction X* catalogue, see Y. T. Nercessian, *Armenian Numismatic Studies III* [ANS III], Armenian Numismatic Society, *Special Publication*, No. 17 (2017), pp. 8 and 10, Nos. 13.m and 21.h, pls. 5 and 8.

<sup>3</sup> For illustration of Tigranes II drachm, in addition to NFA *Auction X* catalogue, see *Catalogue of Armenian Coins Collected by Y.T. Nercessian*, Armenian Numismatic Society, *Special Publication*, No. 14 (2008), p. 13, No. 53, pl. 7.



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## SALE

PUBLICATIONS	SALE PRICE
SP1. Bedoukian, Paul Z. <b>Selected Numismatic Studies [I]</b> . 1981, xxxvi, 570 pp., 72 pls., clothbound (For Vol. II see SP10), retail \$35.00.....	\$10.0
SP2. Nercessian, Y. T. <b>Attribution and Dating of Armenian Bilingual Trams</b> . 1983, 36 pp., 12 pls., card covers, retail \$6.75.....	2.00
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SP4. Bedoukian, Paul Z. <b>Coinage of the Armenian Kingdoms of Sophene and Commagene..</b> <b>SOLD OUT</b>	
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SP6. Nercessian, Y. T. <b>Bank Notes of Armenia</b> . 1988, 224 pp., 192 pl., clothbound, retail \$30.00.....	8.00
SP7. Bedoukian, Paul Z. <b>A Hoard of Copper Coins of Tigranes the Great and a Hoard of Artaxiad Coins</b> . 1991, 30 pp., 2 pls., card covers, retail \$5.50.....	1.00
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SP9. Nercessian, Y. T. <b>Armenian Numismatic Studies [I]</b> . 2000, viii, 678 pp., 96 pls., clothbound (For Vol. II see SP15), (For Vol. II and III see SP15 and SP17), retail \$75.00.....	10.00
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SP17. Nercessian, Y. T. <b>Armenian Numismatic Studies III. OP. Author's personal stock</b> , 2017, xii, 386 pp., 48 pls., clothbound (For Vol. I and II see SP9 and SP15), (short run).....	60.00
ANJ4. <b>Essays on Armenian Numismatics in Memory of Father Clement Sibilian on the Centennial of His Death</b> , <i>Armenian Numismatic Journal</i> , Series I, Vol. IV (1978), 167 pp., XXI pls., card covers, retail \$30.00.....	15.00
ANJ15. <b>Studies in Honor of Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian</b> , <i>Armenian Numismatic Journal</i> , Series I, Vol. XV (1989), 192 pp, illus., card covers, retail \$30.00.....	10.00
B1. Bedoukian, Paul Z., <i>Coinage of the Artaxiads of Armenia</i> . London: Royal Numismatic Society, <i>Special Publication</i> , No. 10, 1978, 81 pp., 8 pls., clothbound, retail 30.00.....	8.00
B2. Bedoukian, Paul Z., <i>Coinage of Cilician Armenia</i> . Danbury, CT, 1979, xxxie, 494 pp., 12 pls., clothbound, retail 45.00.....	10.00
B3. Bedoukian, Paul Z., <i>Armenian Coins and Medals: An Exhibition from the Collection of Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian</i> . New York, 1971, [24 pp.], bilingual, illus. in black and white, 8.5"x7", card covers. <b>OP. Nercessian's personal stock</b> , retail 5.00 .....	.3.00
B5. Bedoukian, Paul Z., <i>Thirty Centuries of Armenian Metal Art: An Exhibition from the Collection of Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian</i> . New York, 1978, [24 pp.], bilingual, illus. in black and white, 8.5"x7", card cover, originally retail \$5.00.....	1.00
B6. Bedoukian, Paul Z., <i>Armenian Woven Art: An Exhibition from the Collection of Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian</i> . New York: AGBU Gallery, 1980, [24 pp.], bilingual, illus. in COLOR, 8.5"x7", card covers, originally retail \$12.50.....	2.00
B7. Bedoukian, Paul Z., <i>Armenian Ceramic Art: An Exhibition from the Collections of Tina &amp; Haroutun Hazarian, Dr. Paul Z. Bedoukian</i> . New York, 1982, [24 pp.], bilingual, illus. in COLOR, 8.5"x7" card covers, originally retail \$12.50.....	2.00

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<b>OP2.</b> "Overstruck and Countermarked Coins of the Artaxiad Dynasty of Armenia," by Nercessian and Saryan, an offprint of ANJ, Vol. XXII (1996), pp. 23-62, pls. I-VI. US 1st class Ship. \$3. ....	10.00
<b>OP3.</b> "Silver Coins of Tigranes II of Armenia," by Y. T. Nercessian, an offprint of ANJ, Vol. XXVI (2000), Nos. 3-4, pp. 43-108, pls. 1-10. US first class shipping \$3.00.....	10.00
<b>M1.</b> Bedoukian, P. Z. Silver proof medal, 39 mm diameter, 1 troy ounce. Obv. portrait of Bedoukian; Rev. logo of Armenian Numismatic Society (2000). US shipping \$7.....	42.00
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13. 32nd Chess Olymp., 100 dram, AR proof	\$75
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19. Bagratid Dynasty, 500 dram, AR prf. 5 oz	\$200

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21. 32nd Chess Olympiad, 100 dram. UNC	\$3
22. Charents, 100 dram, UNC	\$3

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23. 10, 20, or 50 luma UNC, each piece	\$2
24. 1, 3, 5, or 10 dram, UNC, each piece	\$2

### Bank notes (1993-4)

25. 10, 25, or 50 dram, UNC each bank note	\$3
26. 100 dram, Ser. ԴԱ or ԴԲ. UNC.	\$4
27. 200 dram, Ser. ԵԱ. UNC	\$6
28. 500 dram, Ser. ԶԱ or ԶԲ. UNC.	\$18
29. 1000 dram, Ser. ԹԱ. UNC	\$25
30. 5000 dram, Ser. ԷԱ. UNC	\$50

### Bonds (1993)

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### Antiquity

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XN1. 75th anniv. of Arm. Church in USA, Æ	\$40
XN2. Armenia-Los Angeles, Garni Æ	\$10
XN3. Armenia-Los Angeles, Etchmiadzin Æ	\$10
XN4. Armenia-Los Angeles, Zvartnots Æ	\$10
XN5. Armenia-LA, Yerevan's ArmMemMon. Æ	\$10
XN6. Armenia-Los Angeles David of Sassoon Æ	\$10
XN7. Armenia-Los Angeles Government House	\$10
XN8. Fresno Numism.Scty/David of Sassoon Æ	\$10
XN9. Key chain, Tigranes II coin replica	\$6
XN10. Levon V of Cilician Armenia. Æ	\$40

### Numismatic Books

N1. BABELON, Ernest, <i>Les Rois de Syrie, d'Arménie et de Commagène</i> . Paris: Bibliothèque Nationale, 1890, 268 pages text, text illustrations, folding tables, 32 fine plates. One plate detached from the spine. Original binding, morocco red-brown spine, with 5 raised bands lettered in gilt; marbled endpapers, binding exhibiting slight use. A fine and handsomely bound monograph. Out of print and extremely difficult to find. ANBL 463 .....	\$550
N2. BEDOUKIAN, Paul Z., <i>Coinage of Cilician Armenia - Կիլիկիական Հայաստանի դրամները</i> , Vienna, 496 pp., 48 pls., 128 pp. text in Armenian, corpus and plates in English	\$65
N3. BEDOUKIAN, Paul Z., <i>Medieval Armenian Coins</i> , 69 pp., 10 pls. In mint state, card covers	\$35
N4. ---, In mint state, cloth bound	\$50
N5. BURNETT, A., <i>Coins</i> . 1990, 64 pp., 44 illus.	\$5
N6. LANGLOIS, Victor. <i>Numismatique de l'Arménie au moyen âge</i> , reprint, cloth bound	\$30
N7. MKRTCHIAN, K. H. <i>Armenian Monetary Units - Հայոց դրամական միավորներ</i> , 88 pp., 16 pls. Bilingual in Armenian and English	\$10
N8. SABBAGHIAN, Berj. <i>Numismatic Questions - դրամագիտական հարցեր</i> , 228 pp.	\$30
N9. SIBILIAN, Clement. <i>Classification of Roupinian Coins - Դասակարգումը Ռուբինյան դրամի</i> , XVI+88+31 pp. original text, reprinted 6 pls., illus., cloth bound, gold print on spine. Only three copies left. OUT OF PRINT	\$85
N10. Y. T. Nercessian. <i>Auction I. Prices realized</i> . (May 2, 1997). Joseph Armenian coins listed. Uns.	\$5
N11. Y. T. Nercessian. <i>Auction II. Prices realized</i> . (April 25, 1998). Armenology and Armenian coin books listed. Unused	\$5
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## Miscellaneous Armenology Books

- A1. *ԴԱՆԻԷԼԵԱՆ, ԺԻՐԱՅԻՐ. Հայ մոռ պարբերական*  
մամուլը, 1967-1981, 184 էջ \$20

## Dictionaries and Encyclopedias

- D1. *Armenian Encyclopedia-Հայկական սովետական հանրագիտարան*, Yerevan, cloth  
Vol. 9, 1983, 720 pp. .... \$35  
Vol. 10, 1984, 736 pp. .... \$35  
Vol. 11, 1985, 720 pp. .... \$35  
Vol. 12, 1986, 751 pp. .... \$35  
Vol. [13] 1987, 688 pp. .... \$35  
Volumes 1 to 12 and supplement [13], a complete set in mint state \$400  
D2. *Haigazian Dictionary - Նոր Բաղկիմ հայկազ-  
եան լեզուի*, Vol. I 1140 pp., 1979, Vol. II 1067 pp.,  
1981, Yerevan reprint, cloth. \$150  
D3. *Ժամանակակից հայոց լեզվի բացատրական  
բառարան, Բ Հար, Երևան*, 1972, 720 էջ, լիթվադ \$30  
D4. --, Գ. Հար, 1974, 575 էջ \$30

## History

- H1. *Armenian History of Aintab - Պատմություն  
Անթեպի Հայոց*, Vol. III, 1200 pp, 580 illus., cl. \$60  
H2. HOVANNISIAN, R. G. *The Republic of  
Armenia*, Vol. II, 1982, 603 pp., cloth \$50  
H3. HOVANNISIAN, R. G. *The Republic of Ar-  
menia*, Vols. I (1971, 547 pp.), II (1982, 603 pp.), III  
(1996, 534 pp.), IV (1996, 496 pp.), only one set \$200  
H4. *Martyrdom and Rebirth*, 105 pp. \$10  
H5. MATEVOSIAN, Rafayel. *Armenian Coat of  
Arms-Հայկական զինանշաններ*, 144 p., 78 ills \$6  
H6. TER-GHEWONDYAN Aram. *The Arab Emi-  
rates in Bagratid Armenia*, 1976, 244 pp., 1 map,  
cloth, unused \$35  
H7. *ԱՎԱԳԹԱՆ, Աբիգ. Հարավային տեղեր*, 412 էջ, \$20  
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H9. *ՄԱՆԱՆԴԻԱՆ, Երկեր, 2, Երևան*, 446 էջ \$10  
H10. *ՍՏԵՓԱՆԵԱՆ, Թ. Հայկական դրոշակներ և  
զինանշաններ* \$3  
H11. *ՎԱՐԴԱՆ Պատմիչ. Պատմություն բաբարայ,*  
1870, 76 էջ, թղթակազմ \$10

## Literature, Poetry, Novel, Fiction

- L1. *ԱՆԴՐՈՆՈՎ, Իոնա. Գալիի հետերոպոլ և Թիմուր  
ԳԱՅԴԱՐ. Աֆղանիստանի երկմեջի տակ*, 344 էջ, \$3  
L2. *ԱՐԱՐԱՆԻ, Վ. Դարպաս, Լուս Անճեղը*, 364 էջ \$15  
L3. *ԲԱՐԱՆԱՍ, Արմեն. Աղբյուր երգի և Արուեստի  
(բանաստեղծություններ)*, 211 էջ \$10  
L4. *ԳԱԼԷՄԻՆԱՆ, Զարուհի. Օրեր և դեմքեր*, 417  
էջ, լիթակազմ \$6  
L5. *ԳԱՐԱԿԻՉԵԱՆ, Վ. Կեանքի գուգահեռ*, 151 էջ \$6  
L6. *ԹՆԿԼՐԱՆ, Սոնա. Սահանք*, 290 էջ, լիթակազմ \$5  
L7. *ՀԱՄԱԼ. Անդունդի մեջէն*, 175 էջ \$2  
L8. *ՀՈՎՍԵՓԻԱՆ, Ռուբեն. Ճայերը*, 40 էջ \$1  
L9. *ՇԱՀԷՆ, Սեդրակ. Բար Թորոս*, 51 էջ \$2  
L10. *ՄԱՐԳԱՐԻԱՆ, Պ. Հ. Գինեկոլոգիայի ձեռնարկ*,  
279 էջ, լիթակազմ \$6

## Archaeology, Architecture, Miniature Painting, and Art Albums

- M1. *Documents of Armenian Architecture*, No.  
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M4 GRIGORIAN, Artsvin. *Sovremenniaia arkhi-  
tectura Armenii*, 18 p, illus, cloth..... \$6  
M5. GRIGORIAN, G. *Album*, 46 pls., b/w. cl. \$10  
M6. RAND, H., *Arshile Gorky; the Implications of  
Symbols*, 270 pp, 15 color pls, 147 black and white  
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## Periodicals and Books

1. *Տէր Մագամը, լիթակազմ*, 319 էջ, տպուած 20-  
երորդ դարից, թուղթը և կազմը վերաւոր \$5  
2. *Martyrdom and Rebirth*, New York, 1965, 105 pp.,  
card cov. Very good cond. \$10  
3. *Soviet Life. Monthly in English—Armenia: Land  
of Rocks and Dazzling Sunshine* (Moscow). 1968,  
March, 64 pp. Excellent cond. \$5  
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of Marshal Bagramian and an article on Armenian  
miniature paintings* (Moscow). 1971, February.  
Excellent cond. \$5  
5. *Հոկ-ի տեղեկատու, Երևան, Թիւ 1 (1928): Վերաւոր  
թղթակազմ: Լաւ վիճակ* \$20  
6. *Abril - Ապրիլ*. In Armenian (Los Angeles). 1982,  
No. 5, 6; 1983, No. 7. In mint state \$9  
7. *Hayastani Gochnag - Հայաստանի Կոչնակ*.  
Monthly in Armenian (New York). 1939, Vol. 39, No.  
14. A very fine copy \$3  
8. *Hayreni Yezerk - Հայրենի եզերք*. Monthly in  
Armenian (Yerevan). 1991, Nos. 1-3, 5-8. \$4

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# ՀԱՅ ԴՐԱՄԱԳԻՏԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՆԴԻՍ

## ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

**NEWSLETTER** No. 19 April 1, 2018

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### Armenian Numismatic Bibliography

PONDER, Richard D. Roman Mesopotamia, *The Numismatist*, Vol. 131 (January 2018), No. 1, pp. 69-72, illus.

### LATEST

ASBAREZ. Nika Bababyan will Lecture on the Awards of Armenia and the Armenian Church – Նիկա Բաբայեան պիտի բանախօսէ Հայաստանի եւ Հայ Եկեղեցւոյ պարգեւներուն մասին. *Asbarez*, Vol. 110 (Friday, 12 January 2018), No. 15,651, p. 6, illus. (in Armenian).

ASBAREZ. In Armavir District of Armenia the Archaeologists Excavated a Residential Area Belonging to the 7<sup>th</sup> Century B.C. – Արմավիրի Մարզին մէջ հնագէտները բացայայտած են Բ.Ա. 7-րդ հազարամեակի բնակատեղի. *Asbarez*, Vol. 110 (Saturday, 13 January 2018), No. 15,652, p. 32, illus. (in Armenian).

ASBAREZ. Manas Bujikian Donates ARF Founders Gold Coins to *Asbarez* [ARF Centennial Gold Medals]. *Asbarez*, Vol. 110 (Saturday, English Section Edition, 3 February 2018), No. 15,666, p 1.

### Paul Bedoukian on Double Trams of Levon I

Estimation of the double tram series shows that the coins are more attractive and generally struck with greater care than most of the coins of Levon...

In the case of the double tram series, it is significant that although differences exist in the legends [ԼԵՒՈՆ ԹԱՎԱԴՈՐ ԱՄԵՆԱՅՆ ՀԱՅՈՅ (=Levon Tagavor Amenayn Hayots (Levon King of all the Armenians) YN] and in the styling of the letters, all the coins represent fine workmanship. The legends are complete, with none of the multitude of abbreviations seen on regular two-lion trams which were struck in the succeeding two decades—further proof that the double trams were struck for only a brief period. The variations in the double tram series indicate that they were the work of different die makers... (Paul Z. Bedoukian, "Double Tram Series of Levon I of Cilician Armenia," SNS I, 1981, p. 281)

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## ‘TAGAVOR AMENAYN HAYOTS’ TITLE ON ARMENIAN COINS

The title of Cilician Armenian kings, mostly, has been ‘King of the Armenians’ (Tagavor hayots) as inscribed on their coins. Levon I used the title ‘King of all the Armenians.’ Then on Levon II, Hetoum II, and Levon V used the same title.<sup>1</sup> YTN

KINGS	ԹԱՎԱԴՈՐ ԱՄԵՆԱՅՆ ՀԱՅՈՑ (King of all the Armenians)	ԹԱՎԱԴՈՐ ԱՄԵ- ՆԱՅՆ ՀԱՅՈՑ (Abbreviated) (King of all the Armenians)	ԹԱՎԱԴՈՐ ՀԱՅՈՑ (King of the Armenians)
Levon I (1198-1219)	CCA13-19, 36 ANS II <sup>2</sup> 1-31	CCA20-33, 123-146a ANS II 32-245	CCA34-35, 38-122, 147-770 ANS II 246-260
Zabel and Philip (1222-1225)	No coins		
Hetoum I (1226-1227)			CCA776-828 836-1421
Levon II (1270-1289)		CCA1428-1484	CCA1424-27, 1485- 1523, 1540-1574
Hetoum II (1289-1293, 1295- 1296, 1299-1305)		CCA1575-1588	CCA1589-1653
Toros (1293-1295)	No coins		
Smpad (1296-1298)			CCA1653a-1722
Gosdantin I (1298-1299)			CCA1724-1733
Levon III (1301-1307)			CCA1734-1839
Oshin (1308-1320)			CCA839a-1945
Levon IV (1320-1342)			CCA1948-2025a
Guy (1342-1344)			CCA2028a-2040
Gosdantin III (1344-1363)			CCA2041-2128
Levon the Usurper (1363-1365)			CCA2129-2168
Gosdantin IV (1365-1373)			CCA2169-2236
Levon V (1374-1375)		CCA2239, 2242-2243	CCA2237-2238a, 2240-2241, 2244

<sup>1</sup> Vartan Matioossian, “On the Title ‘of All the Armenians’ of Levon V Lousignan,” *Bazmavep*, Vol. CXLVIII (1990), Nos. 1-2, pp. 234-237 (in Armenian with French summary). Reprinted in *The Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia; International Symposium*, New York, Armenian Apostolic Church of America, November 1993, pp. 34-35.

<sup>2</sup> Y. T. Necessian “Metrological Analysis of Levon I Double Trams,” *Armenian Numismatic Studies II* (Los Angeles, 2009), pp. 243-270, pls. 23-32; reprinted from *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series II, Vol. 2 (32), (June 2006), No. 2, pp. 45-65, pls. 4-7.



# ՀԱՅ ԴՐԱՄԱԳԻՏԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՆԴԷՍ ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

**NEWSLETTER**

No. 20

June 1, 2018

## LATEST

GEVORGIAN, Heghine. Interview with Berj Chekijian, Director of Armenian Library and Museum of America, Watertown, MA: On the Footsteps of Armenian Culture – *Հարցազրույց Ուորթերթաունի Ամերիկայի Հայկական Գրադարան-Թանգարանի Տնօրէն Պերճ Զեքիճեանի հետ. Հայ մշակույթի հետքերով. Asbarez*, Vol. 110 (Tuesday, 9 January 2018), No. 15,648, pp. 8 and 13, illus. (in Armenian).

## CARPETS

ÇOKAY, M. Önder, Kumkapi Halilari – Kumkapi Carpets [Designed by Armenians], *Surp Pir-gich Armenian Hospital Foundation*, Vol. 68 (November-December 2017), Nos. 809-810, pp. 106-125, illus. in color, bilingual in Turkish and English.

ASBAREZ. In Armenia the Carpet Production has Increased -- Հայաստանի մէջ գորգերու արտադրութիւնը աճած է. *Asbarez*, Vol. 110 (Wednesday, February 28, 2018), No. 15,504, p. 12, illus., in Armenian..

### Bedoukian on Armenian Metal Art

The extensive coinage of Cilician Armenia in gold, silver, and copper, constitutes a form of Armenian art. It is a pity that little jewelry, military ware, and household utensils seem to have survived. No doubt, much of it remains underground.

Most of the known metal objects are religious in nature. Illustrations of several of these are presented. On exhibit also are examples of the coinage of Cilician and historic Armenia. Various crosses and small metal objects belong to this period and were found as part of a hoard containing Armenian coins.

Այս շրջանին պատկանող բազմաթիւ դրամներ -- ոսկի, արծաթ եւ պղինձ -- կը կազմեն հայ մետաղուեստի գլխաւոր նմուշներ: Ցաւալի է որ խիստ սակաւաթիւ զինուորական առարկաներ, գոհարեղէններ եւ տնային առարկաներ հասած են մեզի: Անոնց մեծ մասը դեռ թաղուած կը մնան հողին տակը:

Գոյութիւն ունեցող նիւթերը մեծ մասամբ կրօնական առարկաներ են: Ասոնցմէ ոմանք, ինչպէս նաեւ այս շրջանին պատկանող դրամներ եւ խաչեր մաս կը կազմեն այս ցուցահանդէսին եւ [յայտնաբերուած են իբրեւ հայկական դրամ պարունակող գանձերու մէկ մասը:] (Paul Z. Bedoukian, *Thirty Centuries of Armenian Metal Art*, 1978, [p. 9])

## DONATIONS

Mrs. Laura Kulhanjian Conrow.....	\$75.00
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## CILICIAN ARMENIAN BRACELETS

Some twenty-five years ago, in 1992, Jack Guevrekian sent me six examples of Cilician Armenian silver bracelets for sale. I did not think I could sell them to my clients. Hence, I photographed the bracelets and had the pictures printed before returning the bracelets to the owner.

For many years I searched for these prints. I had almost given up looking for them. A few months ago I decided that material accumulated in a box since the 1980s should be cleaned. In that box I found all of the photographic prints of these Cilician Armenian silver bracelets.

According to the prevailing information, the hoard was discovered in February 1992, in Mersin, Turkey (Cilician Armenia) with 810 Hetoum-Zabel silver trams.

I thought it might a good idea if I had the pictures published for posterity. To the best of my knowledge only some examples were published in CNG auction catalogues a few decades ago. If a reader is aware of material published in any other periodical please let me know.

The pictures are printed according to the order of exposure numbers of the negatives. Each one of the plates, from 1 to 6, is dedicated to one bracelet photographed from various sides. At the bottom and right hand corner the weight is recorded in grams.

For the benefit of our readers the information published in Classical Numismatic Group, Inc. [CNG] auction catalogues are summarized.

CNG *Auction*<sup>1</sup> 51 listed 3 lots, Lot 780, included 2 silver items, Ca. 13<sup>th</sup> century silver cross, 47x40 mm, and a silver bracelet, diameter 47 mm, estimated price \$500, price realized \$400; Lot 781, silver bracelet, diameter 60 mm, estimated price \$600, price realized \$400; Lot 782, silver bracelet, diameter 64 mm, estimated price \$650, price realized \$475.

CNG *Auction*<sup>2</sup> 58 listed 4 silver bracelets, Lot No. 2154, 70 mm diameter, 25.02 g weight, estimated price \$500, unsold; Lot 2155, 60 mm, 19.62 g, estimated price \$500, unsold, this bracelet is illustrated in our Plate 4; Lot 2156, 66 mm, 22.61 g, estimated price \$500, unsold; Lot 2157, 68 mm, 36.13 g, estimated price \$300, unsold; Silver crosses, Lot No. 2158, length 61 mm, 9.75 g, estimated price \$500, price realized \$900; Lot 2159, length 71 mm, 13.36 g, estimated price \$500, price realized \$700. CNG, correctly, dated all of them 13<sup>th</sup> century.

CNG *Auction*<sup>3</sup> 61, Lot 2723 listed 3 pieces: a 13th century silver bracelet and a silver cross; and also, another bracelet belonging to Ca. 400-600 A.D. Cilician Armenian silver bracelet diameter is 65 mm, and silver cross 60x45 mm, weights not given for either of them. Estimated price for the Lot 2723 is \$600, price realized \$755.

It is worthy to note that some of the design motifs engraved on these bracelets appear in Armenian miniature paintings. It is a good subject for a scholar who wants to study these bracelet designs and compare them with published art books.

Y. T. Nercessian

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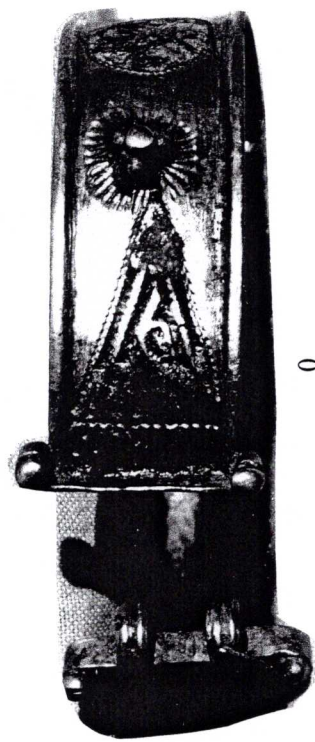
<sup>1</sup> CNG, Lancaster, PA, *Auction* 51 (September 15, 1999), *The Araratian Collection of Armenian Coins, Part III*, p. 89, Nos. 780-782.

<sup>2</sup> CNG, *Auction* 58 (Wednesday, September 19, 2001), pp. 238 and 239, silver bracelets Nos. 2154-2157, silver crosses Nos. 2158 and 2159.

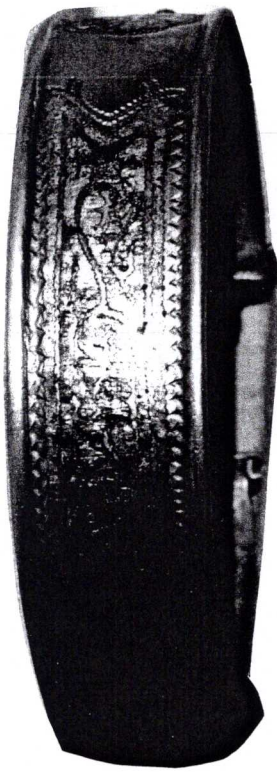
<sup>3</sup> CNG, *Auction* 61 (Wednesday, September 25, 2002), *Manuel Panossian Collection*, p. 225, No. 2723. All lots are subject to a 10% buyer's fee which was added to the hammer price.



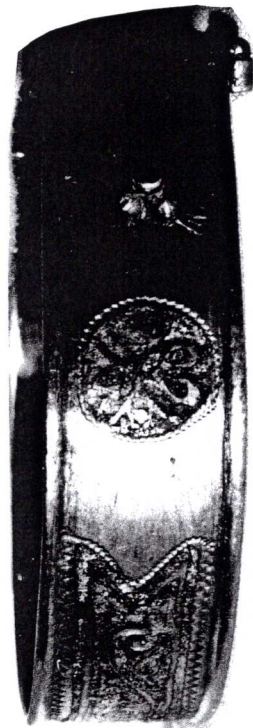
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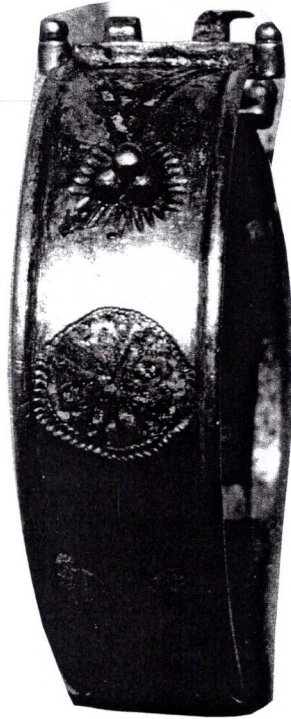
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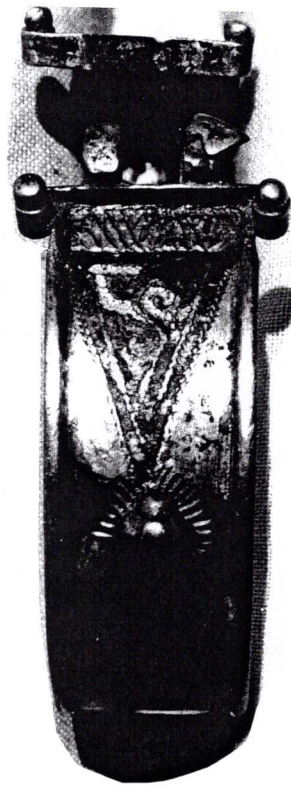
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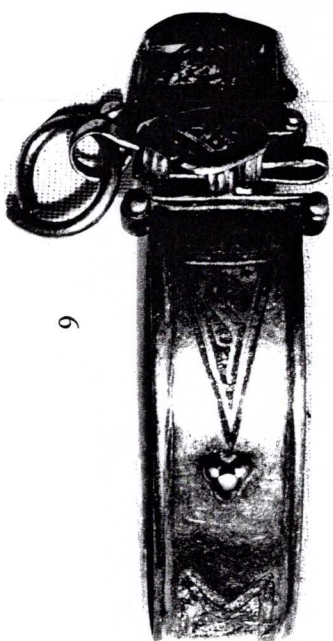
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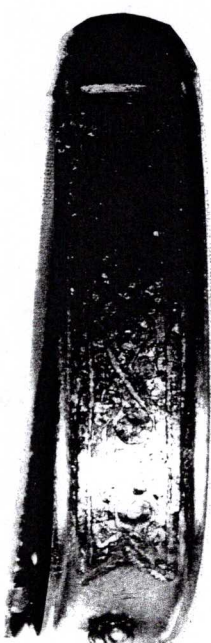
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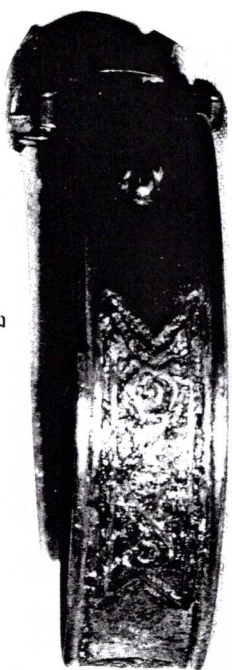
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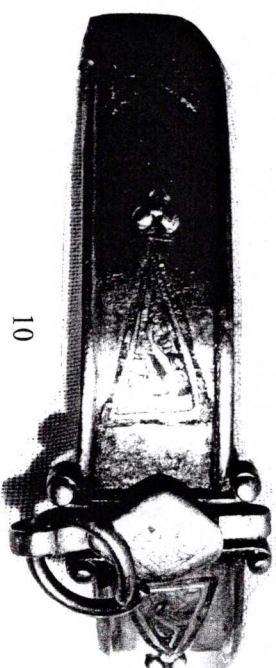
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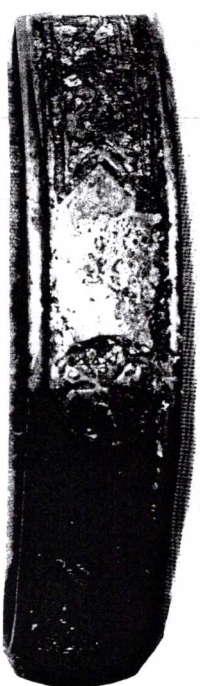
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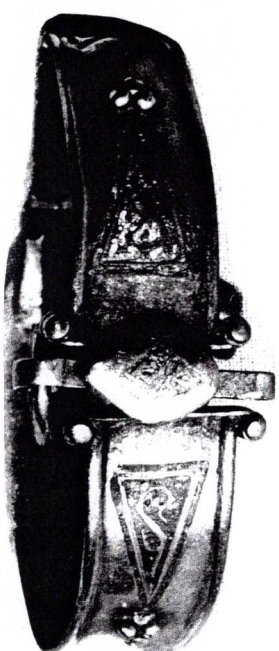
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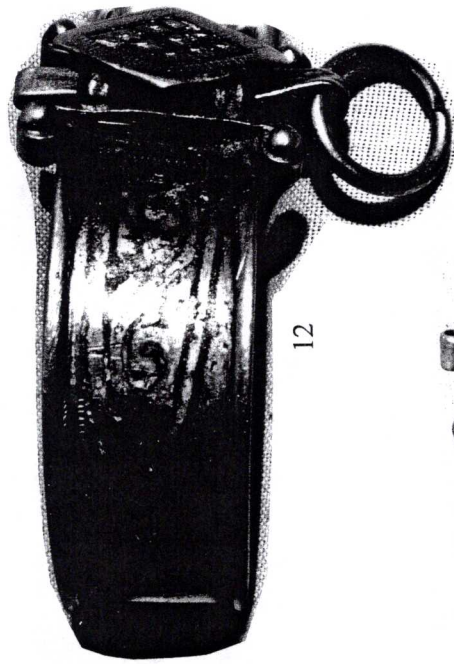


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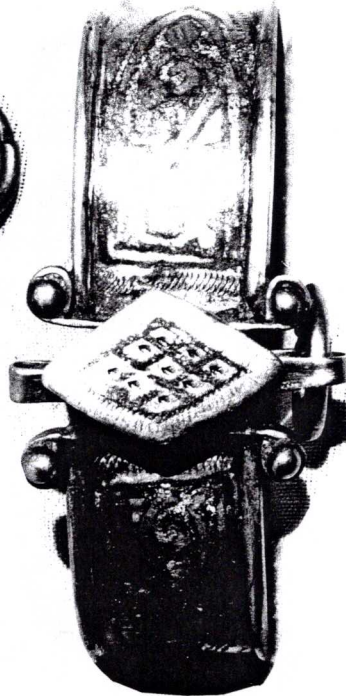
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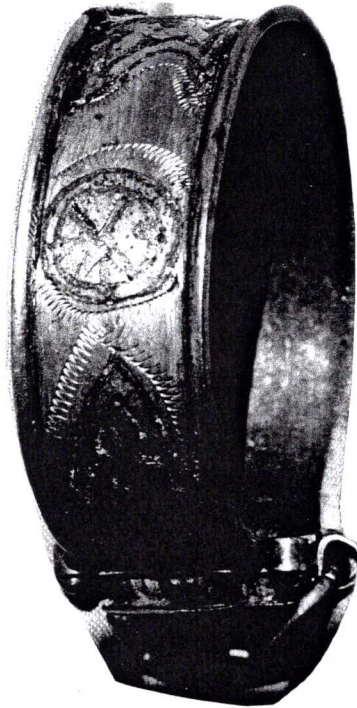
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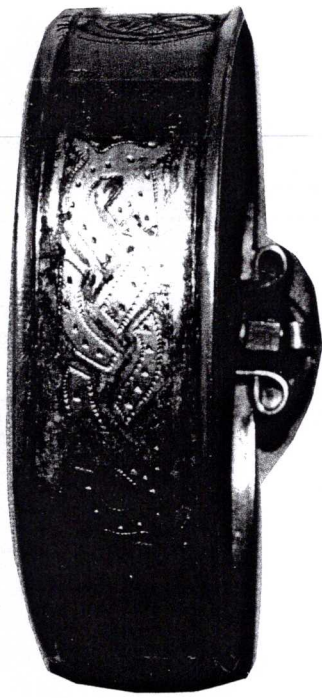
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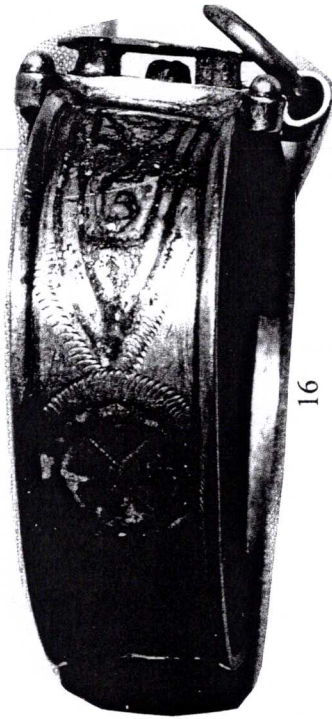
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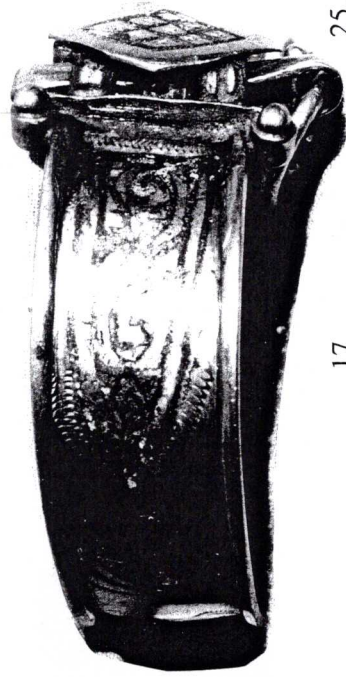
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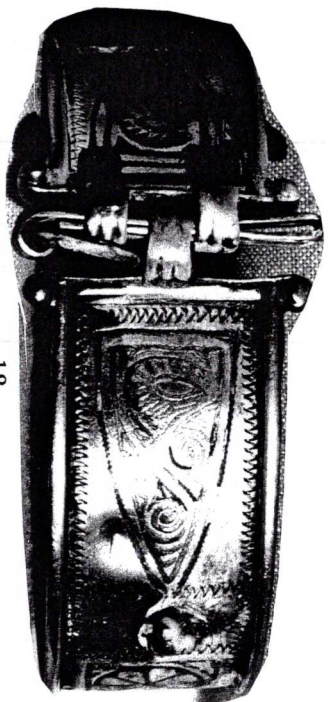
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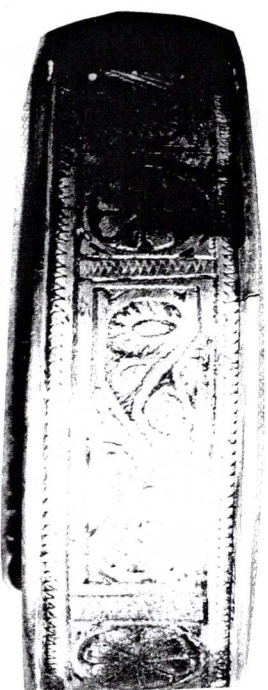
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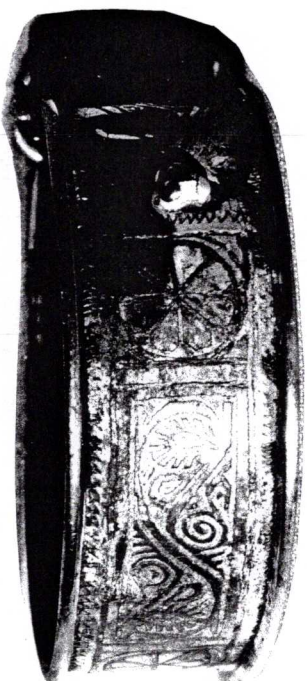
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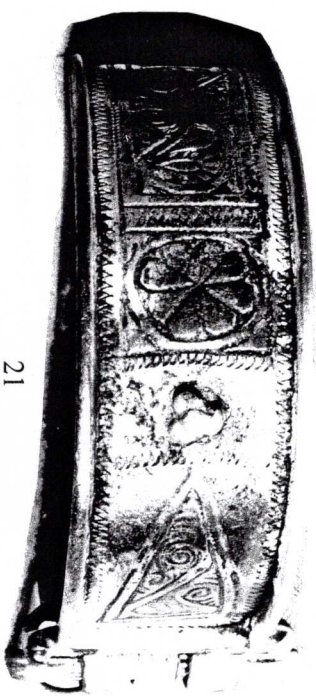
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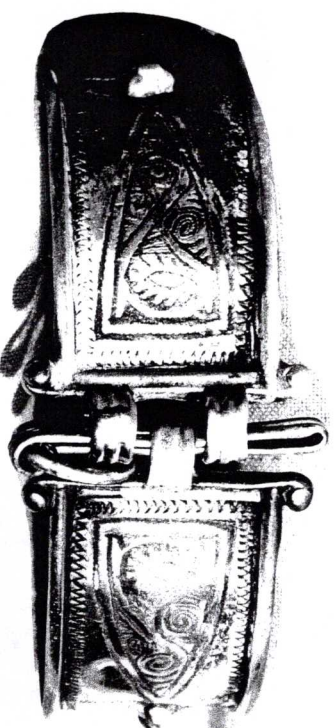
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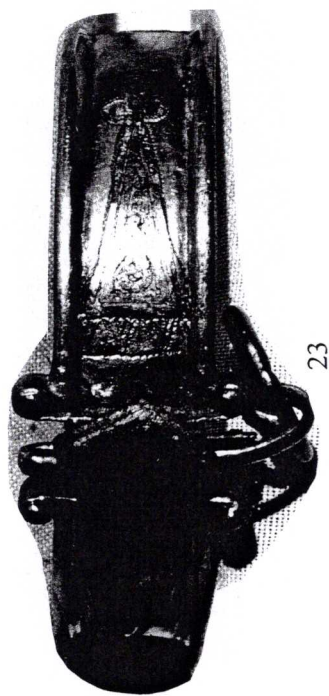


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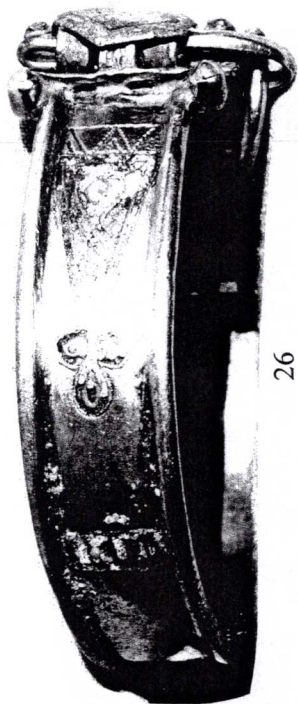
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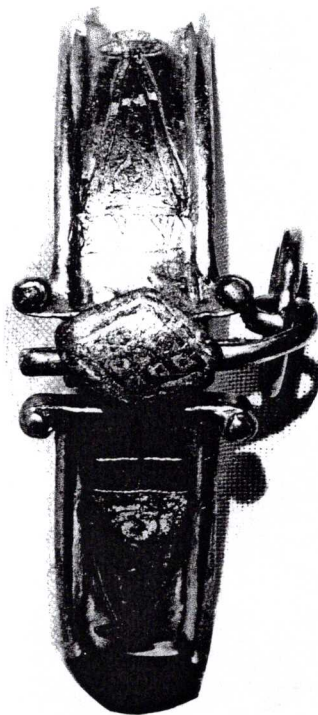
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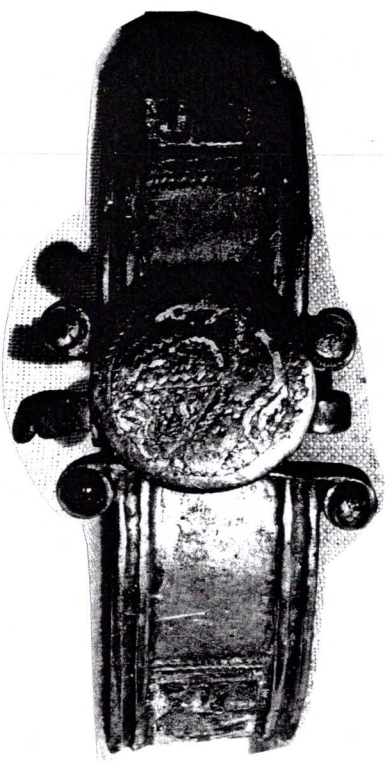
26



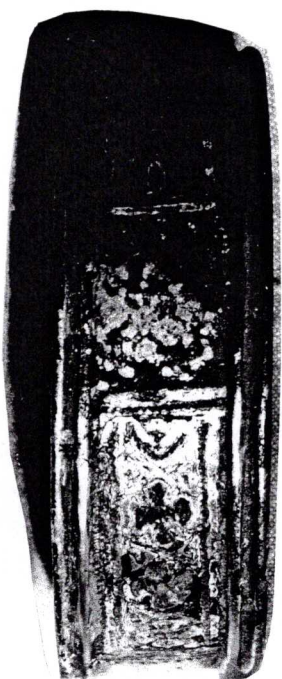
27

22.79g

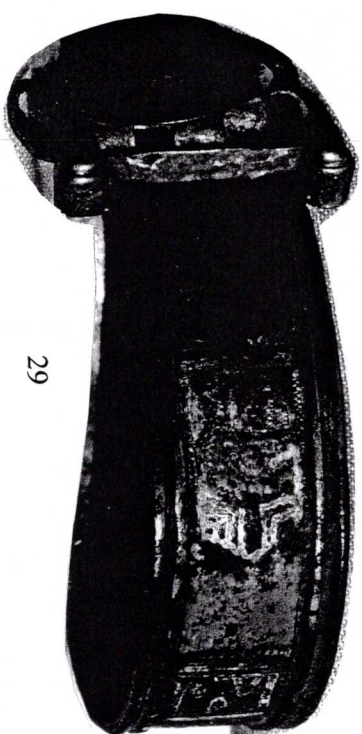
OLD MEMORIES: Cilician Armenian Bracelets



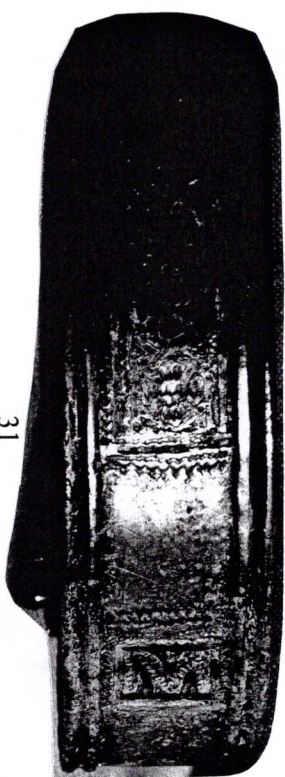
28



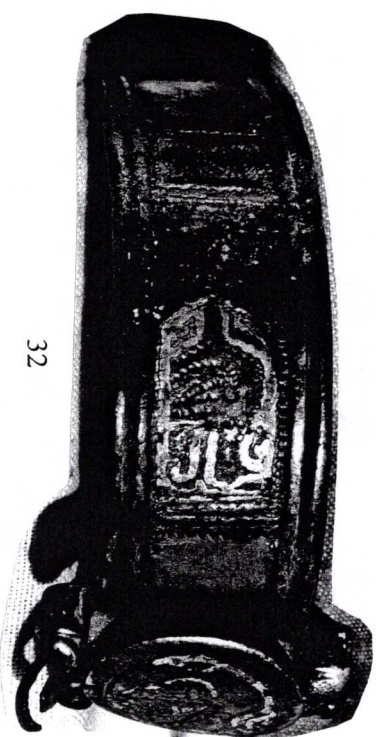
30



29



31

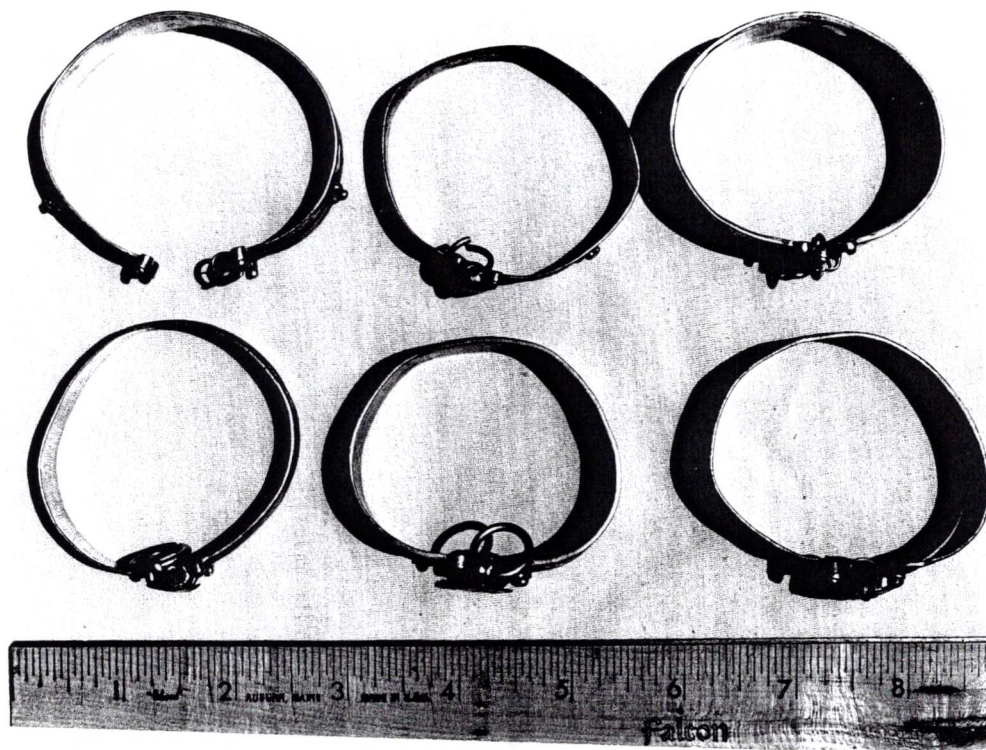


32

27.26g



OLD MEMORIES: Cilician Armenian Bracelets

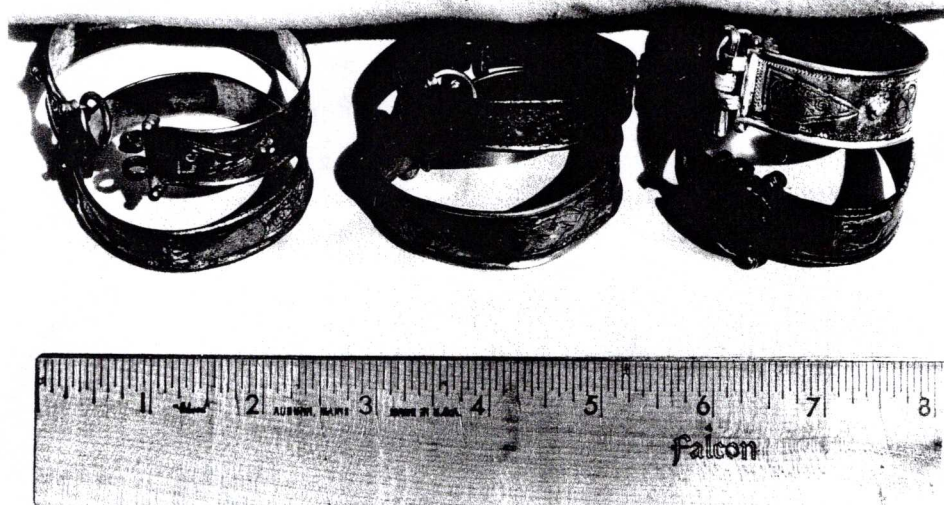


33

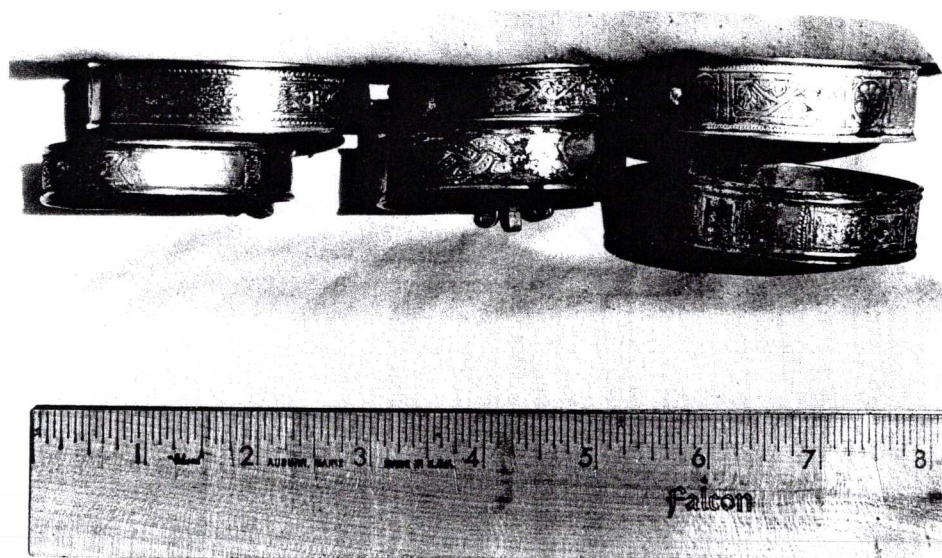


34

OLD MEMORIES: Cilician Armenian Bracelets



35



36



# ՀԱՅ ԴՐԱՄԱԳԻՏԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՆԴԻՍ

## ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

NEWSLETTER No. 21 August 1, 2018

### Armenian Numismatic Bibliography

HYE SHARZHOOM. Babayan Presents Illuminating Lecture on “Armenian Awards,” *Hye Sharzhoom*, Vol. 39 (March 2018), No. 3, p. 3, illus. St Gregory the Illuminator medal.

KUSHERIAN, Cathia. Meditations on Governmental Symbols of Armenia - *Մտորումներ Հայաստանի պետական խորհրդանիշների շուրջ, գրեց՝ Կատիա Զուշերեան. Asbarez*, Vol. 110 (Saturday, 26 May 2018, Special issue dedicated to the centennial of Armenian independence and the establishment of the first Armenian Republic), No. 15,743, (Section I, First Republic of Armenia, 1918) pp. 13 and 14, illus. (in Armenian).

YARMAN, Arsen. Kiliselerde Kullanılan Para-Biletler – Money-Tokens Used in Churches [of Sepasdia], “Sivas 1877,” *Surp Pirgich*, Vol. 69 (January-February 2018), Nos. 811-812, pp. 132-170, specially pp. 154-155 where a 10 para Armenian Church token of 1878, is illustrated and described, in Turkish.

### LATEST

ARMENIAN RUG SOCIETY. Stealing Culture: Azeries Claim Armenian Carpets as Their Own. *Asbarez*, Vol. 110 (Saturday, 21 April 2018), No. 15,719, p. 4 of English Section, illus.

ASBAREZ. The Customs Officials Discovers Counterfeited Bank Notes [\$\$\$]–*Անվտանգութեան ծառայութիւնը կեղծուած թղթադրամներ կը յայտնաբերէ [\$\$\$]. Asbarez*, Vol. 110 (Saturday, 14 April 2018), No. 15,714, p. 18, illus. (in Armenian).

### Earliest Publication on Roupenian Coins

The first mention of a Roupenian coin was apparently made in 1644 by Tristan who included a drawing of a bilingual coin of Hetoum-Kaikhusrew in his extensive work on numismatics. Tristan was able to translate (although incorrectly) the Arabic inscription on the coin but could not decipher Armenian side, although he knew the characters were Armenian. (ANBL 273), (PZB, CCA . xxii)

### Earliest Publication on Artaxiad Coins

To the best of our knowledge, Moses Khorenatsi was one of the earliest who mentions that Artaxias struck coins with his image (ANBL 226-229).

Roman sources were familiar with the coins of Tigranes II the Great. During the period of Roman General Lucullus (69 B.C.), Roman historians mention that each Roman soldier received 800 drachms [of Tigranes the Great] as his share of the booty from the spoils of Tigranocerta. (ANBL 672)

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ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL NEWSLETTER is the publication of Armenian Numismatic Society, an educational, non-profit organization. Editor, Y. T. Nercessian, 8511 Beverly Park Place, Pico Rivera, CA 90660-1920, USA Membership: \$25, foreign 30 per year.

# FREQUENTLY REFERENCED ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC BOOKS OUT OF PRINT OR REPRINTED

1. Միսիլեան, Հ. Կղեմես Վ., *Պատարարութիւն ռուբենեան դրամոյ*, (*Classification of Roupenian Coins*, by Fr. C. Sibilian) Վիեննա, 1892, xvi + 88 + 31 էջ, 6 տախտակ: *Պատարարութիւն ռուբենեան դրամոյ*, Վիեննա, 1892, xvi + 88 + 31 էջ, 6 վերատպուած տախտակ: **OP**, (*Armenian Numismatic Bibliography and Literature*), ANBL 962
2. Gamalov-Churaev, S. A. *Классификация Рубенидских монет по К. СИБИЛЯНУ*, Автор С. А. Гамалов-Чураев [Classification of Roupenian Coins, According to C. Sibilian], St. Petersburg, 1923, 21 pp., 4 pls., in Russian. **OP**, ANBL 888
3. Բասմաճեան, Կ. Յ., *Հայկական ընդհանուր դրամագիտութիւն եւ Հայաստանի վերաբերեալ դրամներ*, (*Numismatique Générale de l'Arménie*, by K. J. Basmadjian) Վենետիկ, 1936, 226 էջ, 2 տախտակ, **OP**: *Հայկական ընդհանուր դրամագիտութիւն եւ Հայաստանի վերաբերեալ դրամներ*, Վենետիկ, 1936, 226 էջ, 2 տախտակ: No date on the cover. Coin line drawings with initials "JM". **OP**, ANBL 446
4. Bedoukian, Paul Z., *Coinage of Cilician Armenia*, ANS NNM 147, New York, 1962, XXXI, 494 pp., XLVIII pls. **OP**, ANBL 831; *Coinage of Cilician Armenia*, revised edition, Danbury, CT, 1979, xxxie, 494 pp., XII pls., ANBL 832; Պտուկեան, Ջարեհ Պ., *Կիլիկեան Հայաստանի դրամները*, Վիեննա, 1963, XXXII + 124a-124m + 496 էջ, 48 տախ, ANBL 843:
5. Bedoukian, Paul Z., *Medieval Armenian Coins*, Paris, 1971, 69 pp., X pls. **OP**, ANBL 799; Reprinted in Bedoukian's *Selected Numismatic Studies [I]*, Los Angeles, 1981, xxxvi + 570 pp., ANBL 962.
6. Պտուկեան, Ջարեհ Պ., *Հայաստանի վերաբերեալ հռոմեական դրամներ եւ մեդալիոններ*, (*Roman Coins and Medallions Relating to Armenia*, by Paul Z. Bedoukian) Վիեննա, 1971, 212 էջ, 38 տախտակ: Green cover, **OP**, ANBL 709 and 710; *Հայաստանի վերաբերեալ հռոմեական դրամներ եւ մեդալիոններ*, Վիեննա, 1971, 212 էջ, 38 տախտակ: White cover on the late printing copy (date of printing is not changed and 2<sup>nd</sup> edition not mentioned) + includes Mekhitarist publication list. Also, the coin pictures in the text and plates have printed numbers (not hand written numbers as in 1<sup>st</sup> edition)
7. Langlois, Victor, *Numismatique de l'Arménie au Moyen Age*, Paris, 1855, xii + 110 pp., VII pls. **OP**, ANBL 805; *Numismatique de l'Arménie au Moyen Age*, Paris, 1978 reprint, xii + 110 pp., VII pls.
8. Langlois, Victor, *Numismatique de l'Arménie dans l'antiquité*, Paris, 1859, xx + 87 pp., VI pls. **OP**, ANBL 478; *Numismatique de l'Arménie dans l'antiquité*, Paris, 1979 reprint, xx + 87 pp., VI pls.
9. Babelon, Ernest, *Les Rois de Syrie, d'Arménie et de Commagène*, Paris, 1890, CCXXII + 268 pp., XXXII pls. **OP**; *Les Rois de Syrie, d'Arménie et de Commagène*, 1971 reprint, Bologna, CCXXII + 268 pp., XXXII pls., ANBL 463
10. Morgan, Jacques de, *Manuel de Numismatique Orientale l'Antiquité et du Moyen Age*, Paris, 1923-1936, 480 pp. **OP**, ANBL 484; *Manuel de Numismatique Orientale*
11. Morgan, Jacques de, *Histoire du Puple Arménien*, Paris, 1919, 410 pp. **OP**, ANBL 250; *The History of the Armenian People*, Boston, 1965, 430 pp. **OP**, ANBL 251; Մորգան, Ժակ դը, *Հայ ժողովուրդի պատմութիւնը*, Պոսթըրն, 1947, 564 էջ, **OP**, ANBL 249: Jacques de Morgan's History books, in three languages, are illustrated with line drawings of most Armenian coins. All of them with initials "JM". Basmadjian copied and reprinted them in his book noted above.
12. Nercessian, Y. T., *Armenian Coins and Their Values*, Los Angeles, Armenian Numismatic Society, SP8, 1995, 256 pp., 48 pls., **OP**



# ՀԱՅ ԴՐԱՄԱԳԻՏԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՆԴԻՍ

## ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

NEWSLETTER

No. 22

October 1, 2018

### ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

ASBAREZ, [Honorary Consul Adrushan Armenian Donated Postage Stamps of the First Republic of Armenia to the Prelacy] – Պատուոյ Հիւպատոս Ատրուշան Արմէնեան Հայաստանի Ա. Հանրապետութեան դրոշմաթուղթերու հաւաքածոյ մը նուիրեց Առաջնորդարանին, *Asbarez*, Vol. 110 (Saturday, June 16, 2018), No. 15,757, p. 6, illus., in Armenian.

### PHILATELIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

ASBAREZ, [Publication of Postage Stamp on the Centennial of Ho Men Et Men and Symposium in Yerevan Dedicated to the History [of Ho Men Et Men] – ՀՄԸՄի 100ամեակի դրոշմաթուղթի հրապարակում եւ պատմութեան նուիրուած գիտաժողով՝ Երեւանի մէջ, *Asbarez*, Vol. 110 (Saturday, July 28, 2018), No. 15,786, p. 4, illus., in Armenian.

According to our research, "Coinage of the Armenian Kingdom of *Sophene*," *Armenian Numismatic Studies III* (Los Angeles, 2017), pp. 1-18, the extent of total *Sophene* coinage is, in 2014:

Sames (ca. 260 BC),	08 coins
Arsames I (ca. 240 BC),	32
Arsames II (ca. 230 BC),	97
Xerxes (ca. 220 BC),	18
Abdissares (ca. 210 BC),	17
Zariadres (ca. 190 BC),	02
Arkathius (early 2 <sup>nd</sup> Century BC),	09
Morphilig (ca. 50 BC),	02
TOTAL	185 coins

Dear Friends:

We need Armenian coins to sell to our clients. If you have duplicate Armenian coins that you would like to sell, keep us in your mind.

If you decide to contact us, please write us: 1) the name of the coin, 2) references, 3) grade, 4) amount of money you want to get paid, and 5) if you have their pictures, that would be very useful.

Also, please let us know, if you have duplicate artistic bank notes of 1918 Armenian Republic (50, 100, 250 rubles).

YTN

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## INSCRIPTONS ON SOPHENE COINS

Most of the inscriptions of coinage of Sophene are given by the author in his research paper.<sup>1</sup> Since then we have not noticed new discoveries. It is worthwhile to note that, initially, The Armenian kingdom of Sophene included Commagene, but during the reign of Xerxes, Seleucids succeeded separating Commagene from Sophene. YTN

KINGS	LEGENDS
Sames (ca. 260 B.C.)	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ/ΣΑΜΟΥ//ΘΕΟΣΕΒΟΥΣ/ΚΑΙΦΙΚΑΙΟΥ
Arsames I (ca. 240 B.C.)	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ/ΑΡΣΑΜΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ/ΑΡΣΑΜΟΥ//ΘΕΟΣΕΒΟΥΣ or ΘΕΟΥ
Arsames II (ca. 230 B.C.)	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ/ΑΡΣΑΜΟΥ
Xerxes (ca. 220 B.C.)	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ/ΞΕΡΞΟΥ
Abdissares <sup>2</sup> (ca. 210 B.C.)	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ/ΑΒΔΙΣΣΑΡΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ/ΑΒΔΙΣΣΑΡΟΥ//ΑΒΑΙΑΒΗΝΟΥ
Arabanus (ca.202 B.C.) <sup>3</sup>	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ//ΑΡΤΑΒΑΝΟΥ
Zariadres (ca. 190 B.C.)	ΑΝΙΣΑ/ΔΩ//ΔΣΑΡΙ
Arkathius (early 2 <sup>nd</sup> Century B.C.)	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ/ΑΡΚΑΘΙΟΥ
Morphilig (ca 150 B.C.)	ΔΣΑΡΙ [ΑΔΡΙΟΣ]/ΜΟΡΙ[ΦΙΛΙΟΣ]
Ardanes (110-94 B.C.)	No coins
Arsaces (after 70 B.C.)	No coins

<sup>1</sup> Y. T. Nercessian, "Coinage of the Armenian Kingdom of Sophene (ca. 260-70 B.C.)," *Armenian Numismatic Studies* III (Los Angeles, 2017), pp. 1-18, pls. 1-11, original version printed in *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series II, Vol. 7 (37), (September 2011), No. 3, pp. 53-63, pls. 1-4; Paul Z. Bedoukian, *Coinage of the Armenian Kingdoms of Sophene and Commagene* (Los Angeles, 1985), 37 pp., 2 pls. (in English and Armenian), reprinted in *Selected Numismatic Studies II* (Los Angeles, 2003), pp. 39-69, pls. 1-2, originally published by ANS in *Museum Notes* 28 (New York), 1983), pp. 71-88, pls. 11-12.

<sup>2</sup> François de Callataÿ, "Abdissares l'Adiabénien," *Iraq*, Vol. LVIII (1998), pp. 135-143.

<sup>3</sup> Frank L. Kovacs, *Armenian Coinage in the Classical Period* (Lancaster, PA, 2016), p. 4, No. 21, pl. 2.



# ՀԱՅ ԴՐԱՄԱԳԻՏԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՆԴԻՍ ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

NEWSLETTER

No. 23

December 1, 2018

To our membership and readers we wish a

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

ԺՆՈՐՀԱՒՈՐ ՆՈՐ ՏԱՐԻ ԵՒ ՍՈՒՐԲ ԾՆՈՒՆՂ

## MEMBERSHIP DUES

Your 2018 dues of \$25 will insure membership in the Armenian Numismatic Society. We hope to hear from you. If you have any comments please do not hesitate to write us a letter or telephone on 562-695-0380

## MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNT SCHEDULE

All Armenian Numismatic Society members receive a **20% (twenty percent)** discount on all publications\*: *Armenian Numismatic Journal* issues (bound volumes included), *Special Publications*, Bedoukian publications, and also our silver medals.

\* Except for publications which are already offered at a reduced price

## LATEST

ASBAREZ. City Council [of Glendale, California] Approves Armenian American Museum Lease Agreement, *Asbarez*, Vol. 110 (Saturday, August 18, 2018), No. 15,801, English section, p. 5, illus.

## CARPETS

ASBAREZ. [The Production of Armenian Carpets Registered an Increase to 85.7 Percent] – Հայկական գորգերու արտադրութիւնը 85.7 տոկոսի աճ արձանագրած է, *Asbarez*, Vol. 110 (Tuesday, October 30, 2018), No. 15,849, in Armenian, p. 12, illus.

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## INSCRIPTONS ON ARTAXIAD COINS

Most of the inscriptions of Artaxiad coins are given by Paul Z. Bedoukian.<sup>1</sup> However, since then new discoveries are made. We incorporated the new information to Bedoukian's list. YTN

KINGS	LEGENDS
Zariadres (before 190 B.C.)	ΖΑΔΡΙ-ΑΔΟΥ//ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ/ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΝ
Artaxias I (190-160 B.C.)	Ruben Vardanyan and Karen Vardanyan <sup>2</sup> described four different types of copper coins with Aramaic inscription: 1) dog, 2) eagle, 3) bee, 4) male had. Also, Frank Kovacs <sup>3</sup> described the same coins and published their Aramaic legends. Readers may refer to both of these sources.  Also, there are three copper coins which are inscribed in Greek: <sup>4</sup> 1) cornucopia, 2) club, 3) bunch of grapes. Legend: ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΑΡΤΑΞΕΡΕΟΥ.
Artavasdes I (160-123 B.C.)	No coins
Tigranes I (123-96 B.C.)	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩC/ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ//ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ/ΦΙΛΕΛΛΗΝΟC
Tigranes II (95-56 B.C.)	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩC/ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΝ//ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩC//ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ
Artavasdes II (56-34 B.C.)	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩC/ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΝ//ΑΡΤΑΥΑΖΔΕΩ/ΘΕΙΟΥ ΒΑCΙΛΕΩC/ΒΑCΙΛΕΩΝ//ΑΡΤΑΥΑΖΔΟΥ

<sup>1</sup> Paul Z. Bedoukian, *Coinage of the Artaxiads of Armenia* (London, 1978), pp. 42-43.

<sup>2</sup> Ruben Vardanyan and Karen Vardanyan, "Newly Found Groups of Artaxiad Copper Coins," *Handes Amsorya*, Vol. CXVIII (2005), pp. 75-120 (in Armenian); also in *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series II, Vol. 4 (34), (December 2008), No. 4, pp. 77-95, pls. 5-7; Y. T. Nercessian, "Observations on 'Newly Found Groups of Artaxiad Copper Coins,' Authored by R. Vardanyan and K. Vardanyan," *Armenian Numismatic Studies III* (Los Angeles, 2017), pp. 48-51, reprinted from *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series II, Vol. 8 (38), (September 2012), No. 3, pp. 69-70.

<sup>3</sup> Frank L. Kovacs, *Armenian Coinage in the Classical Period* (Lancaster, PA, 2016), pp. 9-10, Nos. 37-48, pls. 3-4.

<sup>4</sup> Ruben Vardanyan, "A Dated Copper Coin of Artaxias II: Evidence of the Use of the Pompeyan Era in Artaxata," *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series I, Vol. XXVII (December 2001), No. 4, pp. 89-94, pl. 3 (Armenian Summary); Y. T. Nercessian, "Coinage of Artaxias II of Armenia," *Armenian Numismatic Studies II* (Los Angeles, 2009), pp. 101-122, pls. 14-15 (in Armenian with English summary); reprinted from *Bazmavep*, Vol. CLXI (2003), Nos. 1-4, pp. 346-372, 2 pls. inclusive (in Armenian with summary in English).



Alexander (34-31 B.C.)	No coins
Artaxias II (34-20 B.C.)	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΑΡΤΑΞΕΡΞΕΩ ΘΕΙΟΥ
Tigranes III (20-8 B.C.)	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ/ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ//ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ/ΦΙΛΟΠΑΤΟΡΟΣ/ ΚΑΙΦΙΛΕΛΛΗΝΟΣ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ/ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ//ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ ΘΕΟΥ
Tigranes IV (8-5 B.C.)	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ/ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ//ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ/ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ//ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ
Artavasdes III (5-2 B.C)	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ /ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ//ΑΡΤΑΥΑΖΔΟΥ
Tigranes IV and Erato (2 B.C.-A.D. 1)	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ/ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ//ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ
Artavasdes IV/Augustus (A.D. 4-6)	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ /ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ//ΑΡΤΑΥΑΖΔΟΥ ΘΕΟΥ ΚΑΙΣΑΡΟΣ ΕΥΕΡΓΕΤΟΥ
Tigranes V/Erato (A.D. 6)	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΝ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΗΣ/ ΕΡΑΤΩ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ ΑΔΕΛΦΗ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΜΕΓΑΣ ΝΕΟΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΗΣ/ ΕΡΑΤΩ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ ΑΔΕΛΦΗ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΜΕΓΑΣ ΝΕΟΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΗΣ/ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ ΘΕΟΣ ΘΕΟΥ ΥΙΟΣ ΣΕΒΑΣΤΟΣ
Vonones (A.D. 8-16)	No coins
Artaxias III (A.D. 18-34)	ΘΕΙΟΣ ΣΕΒΑΣΤΟΙΣ ΚΑΙΣΑΡΙ ΚΑΙ ΙΟΥΛΙΑ/ [ΒΑΣ] ΑΡΤΑΞΙΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΕΒ Β ΠΟΛΕ ΚΑΙ ΠΥΘ[ΟΔΩΡΙ ΘΕΙΟΣ ΣΕΒΑΣΤΟΙΣ ΚΑΙΣΑΡΙ ΚΑΙ ΙΟΥΛ.Α/ ΒΑ[Σ] ΑΡΤΑΞΙΟΥ ΤΟΥ ΕΚ ΠΟΛΕ ΚΑΙ ΠΥΘΟΔΩΡΙ ΤΟΙΣΡΙΑΤΟΓΓΑΝΙΣΑΙΒ/...ΒΟΟΛΑΚΟΠΛΟΚΝΙΠΒΟΟΔΝΙΡΙ

# ՀԱՅ ԴՐԱՄԱԳԻՏԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՆԴԻՍ ARMENIAN NUMISMATIC JOURNAL

**NEWSLETTER**

No. 24

December 1, 2018

## COINS OF COMMAGENE AUCTIONED BY

GERHARD HIRSCH NACHF. AUCTION 343 (September 26, 2018) (R.P. Collection)

<i>No.</i>	<i>Ruler</i>	<i>Coin</i>	<i>Reference</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>€ Est.</i>	<i>€ Sold*</i>
2395	Mithridates I (BC 96-70)	Arsameia- Athena w/spear	ACV 187	VF-F/F	150	---
2396	Antiochus I and Mithridates II (36-20)	Bull butting right	Alram 247	F-VF	300	260
2397	Mithridates II (36-20)	Club in wreath	ACV 193, Alram 248	VF	200	320
2398	Mithridates III (20-12)	Scorpion - in- scription	Alram 249	Good VF	175	400
2399	Antiochus IV (AD 38-72)	Scorpion	ACV 200	Good VF	150	---
2400	Antiochus IV (38-72)	Capricorn	ACV 205	Good 250	250	200
2401	Antiochus IV (38-72)	Celenderis, Cilicia, Apollo Standing	ACV 210	VF-EF/VF	250	---
2402	Antiochus IV (38-72)	Laranda- Lykaonia	Ex Hirsch 198, 1998, No. 369	VF	150	320
2403	Iotape (38-72)	Scorpion	ACV 219	VF	150	160
2404	Epiphanes and Callinicus (72)	Capricorn	ACV 226	VF	200	---
2405	Epiphanes and Callinicus (72)	Capricorn	ACV 227	VF	350	420

\*On Sept. 26, 2018, 1.00 € = 1.15 US \$. The price quoted does not include the 20% buyer's fee.

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## A CRITICAL BOOK REVIEW

KOVACS, Frank L., *Armenian Coinage in the Classical Period*. Lancaster, PA/London: Classical Numismatic Group, Inc., *Classical Numismatic Studies* No. 10, 2016, 83 pp., 34 pls., clothbound. \$85.00 plus shipping.

Frank Kovacs can be proud of his book. Its photographic plates are of superb quality, it includes many unpublished coins, and it is a good, quality publication. However, we cannot say the same thing about its content. Hence this is going to be a critical review.

- A. **Sophene.** During the reign of Arsames I and Arsames II (or Arsames), Sophene and Commagene were one country. Much later, Commagene was detached from Sophene and became an independent kingdom. Furthermore, the tiara on coin 218 is identical to the one Arsames I is wearing. Hence coin 218 should be attributed to Arsames I.
- B. **Tigranes I or Tigranes II.** Based on coin legends and the evolution of the Armenian tiara, in the past, coins 64 to 70 were ascribed to Tigranes I. However, Kovacs assigned them to Tigranes II the Great. These coins belong to Tigranes I (123-96 B.C.).
- C. **Tigranes II Coin Imitations.** Tetradrachm No. 123. We disagree with Kovacs on his attribution. In 2001, we catalogued a small hoard of 21 tetradrachms of Tigranes the Great. The hoard included 4 coins belonging to group 1, 4 to group 2, 1 to group 3, 7 to group 5, 1 to group 6, 1 to group 7, 2 to group 8, and 1 to group 10.<sup>1</sup> The imitation example of Kovacs belongs to group 5. All of the coins of group 5, have the same obverse die and six different reverse dies (only 2 coins have the same reverse die). Same type of coins catalogued in SCADA<sup>2</sup> includes 59 coins, 1 obverse die and 21 reverse dies with two different monograms. Why would any die-cutter prepare 21 dies with two different monograms on his 59 imitations?
- D. **Tigranes the Younger.** There is no such thing as Tigranes the Younger coins. As a matter of fact Tigranes the Younger coin is a very convenient name for those numismatists who do not know how to attribute Armenian coins properly or they want to be just different in attributing "young looking" Tigranes coins by taking them away from Tigranes the Great and ascribing them to Tigranes the Younger.<sup>3</sup> When Tigranes II the Great reattached Sophene and Commagene to Armenia Major, he placed Sophene under the jurisdiction of Tigranes the Younger. Also, Tigranes the Younger was married to the daughter of Phraates III (70-57 B.C.), the king of Parthia. Tigranes the Great or Phraates III had not given authority to Tigranes the Younger to strike coins. As a matter of fact, one of the sons of Tigranes the Great was executed for placing his father's Armenian tiara on his head. When Pompey humbled Tigranes the Great, he placed on him a huge sum of war indemnity which came from the treasury of Sophene.<sup>4</sup> Sophene was one of the wealthiest districts of Armenia. It seems to be very im-

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<sup>1</sup> Y. T. Nercessian, "A Small Hoard of Tigranes II the Great Tetradrachms," *Armenian Numismatic Studies II* (Los Angeles, 2009), pp. 11-20, pls. 3-5, reprinted from *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series I, Vol. XXVIII (December 2002), No. 4, pp. 91-96, pl. 2.

<sup>2</sup> Y. T. Nercessian, *Silver Coinage of the Artaxiad Dynasty of Armenia* (Los Angeles, 2006), 212 pp, 96 pls. See pages 64-68, Group 6, A48-P4 to A48-P24 (note that in SCADA the group number is changed to "Group 6").

<sup>3</sup> Y. T. Nercessian, "The Myth of Tigranes the Younger Coins," *Armenian Numismatic Studies II* (Los Angeles, 2009), pp. 90-95, pl. 10, reprinted from *Armenian Numismatic Journal*, Series I, Vol. XXVII (December 2001), No. 4, pp. 95-98, pl. III.

<sup>4</sup> Hakob Manantian, *A Critical Survey of the History of the Armenian People*, Vol. I (Erevan, 1944), p. 236 (in Armenian); and *Collective Works*, Vol. I (Erevan 1977), p. 234 (in Armenian).



practical for a traitor<sup>5</sup> son to journey from Armenia to Damascus or to a Seleucid mint in the Damascus area and be capable of striking coins there.<sup>6</sup> Furthermore, it would be unprecedented under Roman Imperial authority for a client ruler to assume the title of king and strike silver tetradrachms and drachms. In 66 B.C. Pompey imprisoned Tigranes the Younger and his family, took them to Rome as war trophy to be a part of his victory celebration. Hence coins 128-158 should be attributed to Tigranes II the Great. Tigranes II the Great is deified on his coins and a youthful king portrait has been preserved on many of his coins.<sup>7</sup>

- E. **Artavasdes I or Artaxias II.** A good percentage of Artavasdes II copper coins have a unique feature. If examined from the reverse side, it will be seen as concave. The concavity has never been noticed on the coppers of other Armenian Artaxiad kings. Also, the name of Artavasdes is pronounced as Artavazd in Armenian. Kovacs has erroneously attributed coin 169 with misspelled inscription of Artavasdes (APTAZD?) [letter "Z" inscribed backwards] to Artaxias II (34 B.C.). It should be noted that Artaxias is written in Greek as Artaxerxes. If nothing else, only the obverse unique portrait design, neck covered with three necklaces, and the reverse concave feature are sufficient for attribution of this copper coin to Artavasdes II; and this should be definitely beyond controversy.
- F. **Tigranes II the Great or Tigranes III.** Kovacs has assigned coins of Tigranes II the Great to Tigranes III. One of these coins is a small module copper coin with Nike reverse design. It should be noted that Tigranes II inscribed his title as "ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΝ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ" on coins struck in Armenia proper; on coins struck in his empire, south of the border of Armenia proper, he used the title "ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ". These are the only inscriptions he has. And the inscription of these small module copper coins with Nike design is "ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ". We just do not see any reason why any king other than Tigranes II the Great should even be considered for this coin by scholars, collectors, and dealers. On copper coins of Tigranes III the inscription differs completely. Those coins that are known to us follow the form of "ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ" and also "ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ ΘΕΟΥ".
- G. **Tigranes IV.** Occasionally, because of poor preservation some coins are not described as accurately as they should be. One of these is a copper coin of Tigranes IV with Heracles reverse (Vahagn in Armenian); also, coins depicting an eagle right and left, an elephant facing right and left, elephant's head, club, and double-axe. First it should be noted that Tigranes IV has a very heavy beard. In the past the tiara is described as "adorned with a star and two eagles." However, recently discovered example of this coin with Heracles reverse and in extremely fine condition is "adorned with four small eagles, head turned left and facing left" (the first and fourth eagles facing left and heads facing left, the second and third eagles are facing but heads turned left). The inscription is "ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ". This is very similar to Tigranes III legend. Why is it that his tiara is adorned with four eagles but not three, five or six? Could it be that because he is the fourth Tigranes who ascended the throne of the Artaxiad Dynasty of Armenia?
- H. **Tigranes VI.** Kovacs assigned the coins to Tigranes IV (8-5 B.C.) (coins 175-176), to Tigranes V (before A.D. 6-12) (coins 181-186), and Tigranes VI (A.D. 60-62), (coins 196-

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<sup>5</sup> Tigranes the Younger rebelled against his father and helped Pompey to conquer Armenia. See Hakob Manantian, *A Critical Survey...*, pp. 231-232; *Collective Works*, pp. 229-230.

<sup>6</sup> Edward T. Newell, *Late Seleucid Mints in Ake-Ptolemais and Damascus* (New York, 1939), p. 107, pls. XVI-XVII.

<sup>7</sup> Gevorg A. Tiratsian, "Armenian Potrait Art in the Coins of Tigranes II and Artavasdes II," *ANJ*, Volume XIX (June 1993), No. 2, pp. 29-42. Originally published in *Patma-Banasirakan Handes*, Vol. XVI (Erevan, 1973), No. 3, pp. 43-60 (in Russian with Armenian summary); G. Kh. Sarkissian, "The Deification and Cult of Kings and Royal Ancestors in Ancient Armenia." *Vestnik Drevnei Istorii* (1966), No. 2.



198. Coins 175 to 176 have a tall tiara and the Greek inscription of “ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ”. These are the tiara and the inscription of Tigranes III. On coins 181 to 186 the king has a very heavy beard and the inscription of “ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ”, these are the coins of Tigranes IV. Also, coins 196-198, are the coins of Tigranes IV; as before, the king has a heavy beard and the Greek legend of “ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΤΙΓΡΑΝΟΥ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ”. Furthermore, Tigranes VI who ruled during A.D. 60-62, is Armenian Arsacid and not Artaxiad. His crown would have been much different, definitely not an Artaxiad tiara.

- I. **Artavasdes III or Artavasdes I.** Based on the inscriptions and the evolution of the Armenian tiara, in the past, coins 49 and 50 were ascribed to Artavasdes III. However, Kovacs assigned them to Artavasdes I. These coins belong to Artavasdes III (5-2 B.C.).
- J. **Mints.** We are certain of the Artaxiad coins struck in the mints of Antioch, Artaxata, Damascus and its satellite mint. The rest of the mints offered for the Artaxiad coins are conjecture.
- K. **Tigranes II or Tigranes III Coin No. 60.** This coin was justly attributed to Tigranes III (20-8 B.C.) by Edward T. Newell.<sup>8</sup>
- L. **Tiridates I or Tigranes II and Cleopatra.** It is extremely difficult to read the king's name on coin 199. The auction house cataloguer assigned it to Tigranes IV with a question mark. Kovacs ascribed it to King Tiridates I (A.D 53-59 and 66-75), the founder of the Armenian Arsacid dynasty who would be wearing an Arsacid crown<sup>9</sup> and not a tiara resembling the one worn by Tigranes II the Great. We read his name from the coin picture, “ΤΙΓΡΑΝΗC”. We are hard-pressed as to how Tiridates can be transcribed. On the reverse of this coin we read, “ΕΟΠΙΑΤΡΑ”. [Cl]eopatra, the daughter of Mithridates VI Eupator, married to Tigranes II the Great and became the queen of Armenia. King Tiridates I when crowned by Emperor Nero was a proud, young, handsome, and extremely strong man. Whereas Tigranes II was born in 140 B.C. and died at old age in 55 B.C.
- M. **Book title.** Based on the title of the book which is being reviewed, the reader assumes that the book is dedicated to Armenian coins. Yet, the reader gets the impression that there is a serious forced effort to increase the size of the book, i.e. appendix, foreign rulers of Armenia, satraps, bronze statuettes, partially full and blank pages, etc.
- N. **Last but not least.** It is extremely difficult to navigate through this book. Historians in Armenia have spent their lifetime researching and presenting the history of Armenian people.<sup>10</sup> For some unknown reason this has been ignored. Also, the research of many scholars and numismatists has been disregarded.<sup>11</sup> And coins of proper rulers have been taken away and distributed to incorrect rulers, i.e. Tigranes I, Tigranes II, Tigranes the Younger, Tigranes III, Tigranes IV, Artavasdes III, Tigranes V, and Tigranes VI. Y. T. Nercessian

<sup>8</sup> Edward T. Newell, *Some Unpublished coins of Eastern Dynasts* (New York, 1926), pp. 13-15, pl. II.

<sup>9</sup> For a picture of marble statue of Tiridates I, see Vahan M. Kurkjian, *A History of Armenia* (New York, 1964), p. 93; or Jacques de Morgan's *The History of the Armenian People* (Boston, 1965), p. 119.

<sup>10</sup> Hakob Manantian, *A Critical Survey of the History of the Armenian People*, Vol. I (Erevan, 1944), 444 pp. (in Armenian), and *Collective Works*, Vol. I (Erevan 1977), 635 pp. (in Armenian), also, *History of the Armenian People* (Erevan, 1971), Vol. I of eight volume series, pp. 521-699 (in Armenian).

<sup>11</sup> Paul Z. Bedoukian, *Coinage of the Artaxiads of Armenia* (London, 1978), 81 pp., 8 pls., also, *Coinage of the Armenian Kingdoms of Sophene and Commagene* (Los Angeles, 1985), 37 pp., 2 pls. (bilingual, in English and Armenian), reprinted in *Selected Numismatic Studies II* (Los Angeles, 2003), pp. 39-69, pls. 1-2, originally printed in *Museum Notes* 28 (New York, 1983), pp. 71-88, pls. 11-12; Kh. A. Mousheghian, *The Monetary Circulation in Armenia* (Erevan, 1983), 351 pp., 25 pls., illus. (in Armenian), also, *Coin Hoards of Armenia* (Erevan, 1973), 184 pp., 70 pls. (in Armenian); Ernest Babelon, *Les Rois de Syrie, d'Arménie et de Commagène* (Paris, 1890), CCXXII + 268 pp., 32 pls.; Percy Gardner, *The Seleucid Kings of Syria* (London, 1878), 126 pp., XXVIII pls.; George Macdonald, “Coinage of Tigranes I,” *Numismatic Chronicle*, Series IV, Vol. II, (1902), pp. 193-201; Asbed H. M. Donabedian, *Pages from the History of Armenian Numismatics* (Beirut, 2006), 116 pp., 15 pls. inclusive, illus. (in Armenian).